

100 MOTHERS START LETTER WAR FOR HIGHWAY SCHOOL SIGNAL

Unable to get satisfaction from the State Division of Highways, mothers of children going to Meadow park school at 230th st. and Hawthorne this week decided that they would continue their efforts to get a traffic control signal at the dangerous intersection and that they would bombard public officials with letters until they had their way.

Since the opening of school last month, a mothers' brigade has been patrolling the intersection to assure safe crossing to their children until some action for their safety would be taken by the State.

Not Satisfied

Mothers waited for a State Division of Highways traffic survey and a consequent recommendation from Sacramento. Last week they were informed that the State would permit the city or school district to erect

a flashing signal but that the State would not sanction a traffic control signal.

Dissatisfied with that recommendation, the mothers have decided to wage a letter war to obtain their signal.

"About 200 mothers are involved and at least 100 of them will start writing letters to the governor, our State senator, our assemblyman and other public officials to obtain such a signal," Mrs. Alfred Knoop, Meadow park P-TA safety chairman, exclaimed this week.

Support for their cause also was forthcoming from the City Council.

Aid Pledged

City Manager George Stevens told members of

the council Tuesday night that State Senator Richard Richards and Assemblyman Vincent Thomas informed him that they would do whatever they can to aid in obtaining a signal, in answer to the city's request for help in the matter.

Stevens also told the council that the State had not replied in writing to his letter but that State officials had told him that the corner of 230th st. and Hawthorne ave. did not qualify for a traffic control signal.

He was told that such a signal would cause more traffic accidents than it would prevent and that the situation would be solved once a signal is installed at Lomita Blvd., as planned.

He was also told that the State was making a traffic study of Hawthorne ave. from Pacific Coast highway to Redondo Beach Blvd. to determine where traffic signals are to be placed.

Hold Out For Signal

Councilman Nick Draie, along with other members of the council, said that the city should demand a traffic control signal at the corner and nothing less.

He indicated that the Lomita Blvd. signal referred to by the State wouldn't be completed for another six years and thus would not help the present situation.

The council also agreed to ask the State Highway Patrol for help in patrolling the area until a permanent solution is found.



REMINISCING . . . Looking at a scrap book and talking over old times are Father Patrick McGuinness and his sister, Miss Maureen McGuinness from Ireland. Miss McGuinness flew here on a vacation visit.—Press Photo.

Visitor Here from Ireland

Arriving last week for a visit with Father Patrick McGuinness of Nativity Catholic church was his sister, Miss Maureen McGuinness of Longford, Ireland.

Miss McGuinness, who is here on vacation, spent about 12 days in Chicago visiting a twin sister before coming to Torrance. She is the first of nine other brothers and sisters still living in Ireland to visit America.

Miss McGuinness will remain in Torrance for a few more weeks before returning to Ireland where she and other members of the family operate a department store.

Father McGuinness last saw his brothers and sisters three years ago when he took a trip to Ireland.

"The hospitality in this country is just overpowering," Miss McGuinness said of her impressions. "I've never been so impressed in all my life. America is a wonderful country—no wonder people come here and never want to go back. Everything is even more plentiful here than I thought."

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THURSDAY, OCTOBER 20, 1955 — TORRANCE, CALIFORNIA

NO. 28

Wild 80 m.p.h. Chase Ends In Crash, Police Nab Sailor



LEONARD LOY
... president

Loy To Head Kiwanis Club

Leonard Loy was elected president last week by members of the Lomita Kiwanis club, with Don Bowker and Tim McCormick elected first and second vice president, respectively.

Elected to serve two years on the board of directors were Dr. Joseph Nebel, John Stanton, Hank Goethals, and Tom Hinckley.

Elected to one year on the board were Lloyd Orr, H. P. Osborne, Jr., and Werner Benson.

Vandals Hit Narbonne High

Vandals broke six windows at Narbonne high school some time between October 15 and 16, according to Lennox sheriff's reports. Damage amounting to \$79 was caused by BB's and flattened pellets.

YOUNG HOUSEWIFE KILLED IN CRASH

A collision involving a Torrance resident resulted in the death Monday of a young Redondo Beach housewife and injury to three other persons.

Declared dead on arrival at Harbor General Hospital was Mrs. Joyce Kelch, 23, of 1911 Marshallfield Lane, Redondo.

The car in which she was riding collided with one driven by Vernon Leroy Pollard, 37, of 4819 Narrot st., Torrance.

Mrs. Kelch was hurled from the car driven by her husband,

William Garret Kelch, 24, by the force of the collision, according to police.

The accident occurred at Marshallfield and Slauson lanes. Mrs. Kelch was thrown through the car door and into the side of Pollard's car, according to police reports.

Admitted to the hospital for treatment were Kelch, Pollard, and his passenger, Jack Bowles, 27, of 4719 Narrot st., Torrance.

The Kelch vehicle was spun around by the force of the crash, striking a fire hydrant

which was sheared off and spouted water high into the air.

The car continued to travel, stopping inches away from a nearby house, according to police.

Kelch told police he was driving between 25-30 miles an hour, stopping in the intersection when he saw the other vehicle coming. Pollard stated that he did not know how fast he was traveling, according to police.

Mrs. Kelch's body was removed to Niland's Chapel of the Flowers.

Teenage Passengers Horrified

Following a harrowing race through intersections and red lights at speeds up to 80 miles an hour, a car driven by an 18-year-old sailor came to a crashing halt when it smashed into another car at Bland place and Walnut in Lomita near midnight last Friday.

Two LAPD motorcycle officers joined a Lennox sheriff's patrol car in the hectic chase which resulted in the arrest of Larry Alan Nicolai, 18, of 24407 Narbonne avenue, Lomita.

Nicolai, who is stationed with the United States Navy on Terminal Island, pleaded guilty to reckless driving and speeding before Judge Otto Willett Monday in South Bay Municipal court. Probation hearing was set for November 8.

Passengers in Nicolai's car were two teenage girls, one of whom was thrown out of the car by the impact, and Lanny Levier, 20, of 2124 Santa Fe, Torrance. The girls were released from Harbor General (Turn to Page 11)

Fathers Organize to Fight Double Sessions

Failure of school authorities to raise and spend sufficient funds for new schools and adequate additions to others was blamed by the Fathers' Club of North Torrance, at a meeting Friday night, for half-day sessions, overcrowded classrooms and a shortage of teachers.

The North Torrance Fathers' Club was organized to implement action initiated recently by the Perry School Parent-Teacher Association, which represents 920 pupils of the school. The P.T.A. in a resolution unanimously adopted at a meeting September 22, protested against the return of the fourth grades to half-day sessions when school officials found that the enrollment at the school far exceeded all expectations.

The recently disclosed fact that California's contribution to education costs has not kept pace with soaring annual income was bitterly lambasted by the fathers.

"What is more important to our youngsters and to the future of our country, than proper education?" asked one of the fathers. "There appears to be more money than ever before for every purpose today except the public schools. Looking at this situation broadly, millions have been spent, but it is obvious that more millions are needed, not tomorrow; not next year—but now!"

It was pointed out that the growth in population of California, probably the main factor in the school shortage, has been progressing for many years—that the population has steadily grown in those years to its

Guard At Paradise Hut Beaten

A private guard employed at the Paradise Hut Cafe, 26011 Pennsylvania ave., was severely beaten Sunday evening by an unidentified assailant who scaled a fence and vanished the way he came.

Taken to Hillside Emergency hospital for treatment of a swollen right eye, severe swelling of the right side of his face, and bleeding teeth and mouth was Earl Craig Huddleston, 47, of 830 Fries, Wilmington, according to Lennox sheriff's.

His assailant was described as a 30-year-old man, 6 feet tall, 200 pounds, dark hair, medium complexion, clean shaven, wearing a grey and white flannel sport shirt and dark trousers.

Two witnesses observed the suspect climb over a 6-foot fence, assault Huddleston, and knock him partially unconscious. The man then left by the same route he came, driving off in a '53 or '54 cream-colored convertible with a black top.

HULL SAYS:

Classroom Provisions Adequate

Are adequate provisions being made for children who are attending and who will attend the local school district? Is more money needed for school construction, and if so, is it available?

Dr. J. H. Hull, superintendent of schools, this week stated that the building program now under way is adequate to take Torrance school children off double sessions within one year.

He also said that every step has been taken to obtain the maximum amount of money for the district which has bonded itself to the maximum sum permitted by law.

Hull stated that 133 classrooms are now in various stages of development. Of these, 72 will be sufficient to take a total of 4768 students off double session who are now on a half-day program.

That will leave 61 classrooms to absorb new students moving into the district. "If there is no growth next year, this means we will be over-built," Hull stated.

The only other means of obtaining more money for the district would be through an override tax, it was pointed out.

"Money from this source is generally used for operative costs and not for construction," Hull indicated.

Homeowners Complain Of Gravel Firm

An uneasy peace between South Torrance residents and Torrance Sand and Gravel firm, 2701 Crenshaw broke into open warfare again when a number of residents charged before the council Tuesday night that the firm had violated a number of conditions of its recent variance.

Five charges were brought against the firm by Lee O'Malley (Turn to Page 36)

They Kept Calling About 'That' House

Dingelingling, all day long! That's what happened when Lee Woodruff of Alter Realty, 2425 W. Lomita Blvd., ran the following ad in the Torrance Press classified section:

3-BEDROOM IN LOMITA \$5500 full price. Low down, easy terms. Also lots. DA. 6-7636 DA. 6-5621

"I received 28 calls from the above ad. In fact I could hear the office phone ringing from my house at night and I kept running back and forth answering it," Woodruff stated. "I was very pleased with the results."

Solve your problems with a snappy, inexpensive classified ad by calling FA 8-2345. You'll be happy with the results!

'MOTHERLY ANGEL'

Mrs. Ambach Receives 'Good Neighbor' Award

The annual YMCA "Good Neighbor" award for the year was presented to a woman who was described as a "motherly angel" by one of her seven neighbors who nominated her.

Presented the trophy at the annual breakfast was Mrs. Ila Mae Ambach of 2517 Sierra st. who has lived in Torrance for the past 16 years. Her husband, William H. Ambach, has lived here 35 years and works for Pacific Electric.

Comments Among the neighbor's comments nominating her for the award were the following: "She always can find the time to help when you need it most"; "... always available if needed for unexpected trip to town"; "Yes, I believe 'Grandma Ambach' is a good neighbor, but not just a neighbor, but a 'motherly angel' that was sent

to our street to give help and

guidance to young mothers like me. When I was seriously ill and had given up hope in my life and had lost my faith G'ma quickly made me understand there is a 'Golden Rule'... because she is a living model"; "In my opinion, she brings out the best in people and inspires her friends and neighbors to be 'more like Mrs. Ambach'; "The children love her dearly."

The Ambachs have two sons, Paul D. Dutton and Henry C. Dutton of Santa Ana; a daughter, Mrs. Dorothy Jones of Bellflower; 10 grandchildren

and six great-grandchildren.

Other nominations for the "Good Neighbor" award were: Mrs. Gordon Hamilton, 1453 W. 219th st. for her aid and kindness to a family which had just moved to Torrance; Mrs. Verda Hansen, 2063 Carson st., described as a model crossing guard; and Dr. Kurt Shery for his work on behalf of a rabies law in Torrance.

More than 700 individuals attended the breakfast.

Dr. Rollin R. Smith was general chairman for the breakfast. Bill Evans acted as master. (Turn to Page 14)



RECEIVING the "Good Neighbor" award for the year is Mrs. Ila Mae Ambach of 2517 Sierra st. Making the award was Ralph Morris (r), chairman of the YMCA board of managers. Bill Evans served as master of ceremonies at the Saturday breakfast.—Press Photo page 12.

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Christmas Parade Planned

Elaborate plans for a gala Christmas program were discussed this week and took concrete form when they were outlined to Torrance merchants attending the monthly Chamber breakfast Monday.

The community program which will center in downtown Torrance will include a Santa Claus parade, the official opening of a Santaland in El Prado park, and a street dance on Marcelina near Cravens December 2; an auto show on Marcelina near Cravens, December 23; and entertainment and caroling in Santaland nightly, December 19-24.

Santaland, set up in an elaborate (Turn to Page 25)

Baby Talk Contest Announced

A "Sweet Baby Talk" contest, sponsored jointly by General Electric and TV Studio, 2223 Torrance Blvd., will start this week and continue for the next three weeks, according to James Nicola of TV Studio.

Grand prize will be a Marmot stove. A set of Richelieu pearls, necklace, and earrings will be given away as a weekly prize.

Contest rules are to supply the phrase that best describes the baby picture appearing in the weekly TV Studio ad. For further information, turn to page 12.